

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

Sub 91> 1. A device for supporting and positioning a neonate, the device comprising:

5. a conformable member; and
a plurality of support members coupled to the conformable member, each support member being moveable from a first position to a second position to facilitate the positioning of the neonate placed on the conformable member.

2. The device of Claim 1, wherein the positioning of the neonate is accomplished without direct physical contact between a caregiver and the neonate.

3. The device of Claim 1, further comprising a fastening means for coupling each of the support members to a portion of the conformable member.

4. The device of Claim 3, wherein the fastening means comprises a plurality of hollow sleeves, coupled to a portion of said conformable member, wherein each hollow sleeve has an open end to insertably receive one of the plurality of support members.

5. The device of Claim 1, wherein each of the support members is removably coupled to the conformable member.

6. The device of Claim 1, wherein the conformable member comprises a material having a density sufficient for cushioning the infant.

7. The device of Claim 1, wherein the conformable member comprises a structure taken from the group consisting of a padded blanket and a padded mattress.

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8. The device of Claim 1, wherein the plurality of support members comprises:

a transverse support member coupled substantially transversely along a head end of the conformable member; and

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at least one lateral support member coupled substantially laterally along a lateral edge of the conformable member.

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9. The device of Claim 1, wherein the plurality of support members comprises a pair of lateral support members coupled substantially along opposing lateral edges, the pair of support members defining a torso area on the conformable member.

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10. The device of Claim 1, wherein each of the plurality of support members comprises a sealable collapsible bag having a filler material.

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11. The device of Claim 10, wherein the filler material is taken from the group consisting of polystyrene beads, down feathers, resilient foam, air, liquid, flaxseed and silicon gel.

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12. The device of Claim 1, wherein the support members define a torso area on a portion of the conformable member which provides support to the neonate placed thereon in either a supine, a prone, and a side-lying position.

13. The device of Claim 1, wherein movement of at least one of the plurality of support members allows the position of the neonate to vary from a first posture to a second posture.

14. The device of Claim 13, wherein the first and the second postures comprise a supine, a prone, and a side-lying position.

15. A positioning device for positioning an infant, the device comprising:
a substantially conforming member;
at least two support members coupled to a portion of said conforming member to define a torso area thereon, each of said support members being moveable from a first position to a second position, the infant being repositioned from a first posture to a second posture in response to the movement of at least one of the support members.

16. The device of Claim 15, wherein the repositioning of the infant is accomplished while avoiding human touch between the infant and a caregiver.

17. An infant positioning device comprising:
means for moving an infant from a first position to a second position without the aid of human touch applied to the infant.

18. A method for repositioning an infant, the method comprising:

positioning an infant on a positioner in a first posture; and

moving a support member between a first position
and a second position to reposition the infant from the
5 first posture to a second posture.

19. The method of Claim 18, wherein said moving further comprises minimizing human touch between the infant and a caregiver.

20. The method of Claim 18, wherein said moving comprises removing a support member from the positioner.

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